



RECEIVED APRIL 18 2006  
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Susanne Emig et al. Confirmation No. :  
Serial No. : 10/555,040  
Filed : October 27, 2005  
TC/A.U. :  
Examiner :  
  
Docket No. : 05-549-CIP  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) DE Patent No. 101 57 542;
- (2) DE Patent No. 601 12 916;
- (3) DE Patent No. 696 00 112;
- (4) DE Patent No. 696 14 578;
- (5) EP Patent No. 1 543 811;
- (6) US Publication No. 2003/0133895;
- (7) US Publication No. 2003/0206883;
- (8) US Publication No. 2004/0120913;
- (9) US Publication No. 2005/0008596; and
- (10) US Patent No. 6,607,717.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Emig et al.

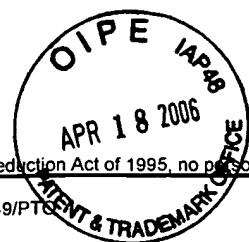
By

Gregory P. LaPointe  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No.: 28,395  
Tel: (203) 777-6628  
Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: April 13, 2006

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on April 13, 2006.

Rachel Piscitelli



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO <i>INVENT &amp; TRADEMARKS</i>		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/555,040
		Filing Date	October 27, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Susamne Emig et al.
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	05-549-CIP

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

Sheet 1

of 1

Attorney Docket Number 05-549-CIP

## **U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		DE 101 57 542	06-18-2003	Syskowski et al	
		DE 601 12 916	02-16-2006	Emslie et al.	
		DE 696 00 112	03-19-1998	Agostini et al.	
		DE 696 14 578	06-13-2002	Masuda	
		EP 1 543 811	06-22-2005	Asai et al.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.